

Filed for intro on 01/17/2002

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 504  
By Cooper J

A RESOLUTION to designate the month of May, 2002, as  
"Jaycees Against Youth Smoking Month (JAYS)"  
and to express support for the Jaycees Against  
Youth Smoking Program.

WHEREAS, at least 4.5 million teenagers are current smokers; daily, on average 4,800 children ages eleven through seventeen try smoking their first cigarette; and

WHEREAS, almost 2000 children who start smoking will become regular smokers, which adds up to 730,000 children who began smoking in the year 2001 alone; one-third of these children will eventually die of smoking-related diseases; and

WHEREAS, even children who do not actively smoke may be adversely affected by smoking; forty-three percent of all children in America are exposed to secondhand smoke; and

WHEREAS, one out of every five Americans will die from a smoking-related disease; the United States sacrifices at least \$97.2 billion each year in health care costs and lost productivity due to smoking; and

WHEREAS, the Jaycees Against Youth Smoking program meets every requirement set forth by the Center for Disease Control; the five-lesson program is available free of charge to

SJR0504

01050383

every school system in the State of Tennessee through the efforts of the United States and Tennessee Jaycees; and

WHEREAS, this excellent, free education program is designed to teach children in elementary and middle school about the health risks of smoking and to help them make an informed decision not to smoke; and

WHEREAS, Jaycees Against Youth Smoking is a well-planned and beneficial education tool, providing teaching guidelines and learning skits, important health information about the dangers of smoking, and a top ten list of reasons not to smoke; children begin the program with a pre-test and end the program two weeks later with a post-test; and

WHEREAS, the program's honorable objectives are: first, to have students identify the health risks of smoking; second, to inform students about the facts of environmental tobacco smoke; third, to teach students how to encourage others not to smoke; fourth, to help students learn and practice methods of dealing successfully with peer pressure to smoke; and finally, to teach students how to quit smoking if they have already started; and

WHEREAS, Jaycee chapters across the country work diligently in recruiting schools to participate in this nationwide project; Jaycees provide a JAYS folder, drawing paper, pre-test and post-test certificate of accomplishment, and fact sheet for every child participating in the program; in addition, the Tennessee Jaycees provide training materials and in-service opportunities for teachers and school administrators by grand division; and

WHEREAS, the members of the United States and Tennessee Jaycees are wholly committed to the noble precepts of public service that have earned Tennessee recognition as the "Volunteer State"; and

WHEREAS, this General Assembly finds it appropriate to wholeheartedly support their laudable efforts to help the youth of this state develop healthy lifestyle habits which will contribute to their future productivity and quality of life; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED SECOND GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, That this General Assembly designates the month of May in 2002 and all subsequent years, as "Jaycees Against Youth Smoking (JAYS)" Month in Tennessee, and encourages all school superintendents, school boards, principals, and teachers in Tennessee to participate in this essential, free health program.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That we express our gratitude to the members of the United States and Tennessee Jaycees for undertaking this praiseworthy effort to preserve the health of our children and youth, and wish the members of this outstanding service organization continued success in all their future endeavors in public service.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.